1986, to open the branch. There is no proposal of opening a branch of Central Bank of India at this centre.

Garments export during 1986-87

1332. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the target for export of garments during 1986-87.

(b) whether the target is likely to be achieved and if so, the actual exports during the first half year period and what was the increase/decrease as compared to the same period previous year; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to increase garment exports to East African counrties, South America and East Europe?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The target for export of readymade garments during 1986-87 has been fixed at Rs. 1,200 crores.

(b) The achievements during the first half year (April-September) of the current financial year were provisionaly placed at Rs. 614 crores compared to Rs. 446 crores, in the corresponding period last year.

(c) The Government has taken following steps to increase garment exports to non-quota markets:

(i) Higher rates of Cash Compensatory Support have been announced for export to non-quota countries.

(ii) Additional Market Development Assistance is given for new products and new markets.

(iii) In the Export Entitlement Distribution Policy for 1987, Non-quota Exporter system has been created with a view to boost the export of readymade garments to non-quota countries.

(iv) Liberal assistance is given for sponsoring and funding promotional activities such as market studies, Buyer-Seller-Meets, Trade Delegations Participation in international fairs and exhibitions, etc.

Foreign branches of nationalised banks

1333. SHRI K. GOPALAN:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of branches of nationalised banks operating abroad at present, bank-wise and countrywise;

(b) what are the bankwise and countrywise deposits, assets and liability figures during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) how many officials are there at present in each branch abroad, bankwise and countrywise;

(d) how many of them have since completed three years of service;

(e) whether there had been an increase in frauds in overseas branches of nationalised banks during the last three years; if so, what steps have been taken to curb bank frauds abroad; and

(f) whether there is any proposal to close down overseas branches to contain frauds; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) At present operating branches in 24 countries. The bank-wise/country-wise distribution is at *Annexure* [*See Appendix CXL, Annexure* No. 58.]

(b) to (d) Information is being collected and to the extent available and permissible under the statutes, will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) and (f) According to Reserve Bank of India (RBI) the number of cases of frauds at the foreign branches of public sector banks as reported in 1984, 1985

and upto 30.9.1986 is 59, 32 and 17 respectively.

Government of India and RBI have taken series of measures to rationalise, strengthen and control the system of operations of overseas branches. Guidelines have also been issued to banks to control the assets/liabilities structure at the foreign branches and also to control country exposures/single borrower|borrowers group limits etc. The banks have also been asked to ensure that the delegated lending authority is not exceeded in any way and to take punitive action against staff in the case of potential losses. RBI have also initiated the process of scrutiny of the operations of each foreign branch. This process could also include closing down of non-viable branches.

Job seekes on live registers of employment exchanges

1334. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleaed to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of job-seekers on the live registers of the Employment Exchanges rose to about 263 lakhs in 1985 from about 170 lakhs in 1981; and

(b) if so, what is the position as at present and by when these arrears are expected to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) The number of job-seekers on the live registers of Employment Exchanges rose to 262.7 lakhs in December, 1985 from 178.4 lakhs in December, 1981.

(b) 288.5 lakh job-seekers are on the live registers of Employment Exchanges at the end of August, 1986. All the persons registered with the Employment Exchanges are not necessary unemployed. Placement through the Employment Exchanges is limited to only certain categories vacancies. Job-seekers can find employment against other categories of vacancies through several other agencies.

Exercise undertaken by the U.S. Navy Armada

1335. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the show U.S. Naval Force at the Soviet doorsteps by way of exercises undertaken by the U.S. Navy Armada in the sea of Japan between mid-August-mid-September, 1986; and

(b) what is Government's reaction thereto by way of bringing about an end to the cold war between the two big powers with the ultimate object of establishing world peace and total nuclear disarmament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Government are aware of the naval exercises undertaken by the United States in the Sea of Japan between mid-August and mid-September 1986.

(b) Government are of the view that that United States and the Soviet Union should engage in a serious dialogue to build mutual confidence and trust, to reduce tension in different regions of the world and to achieve total nuclear disarmament as a means of assuring peace and international security.

Capital goods import policy

1336. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make some changes in the capital goods import policy; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what are the reasons therefor?